

**PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE—  
CALLING ON PRESIDENT TO AB-  
STAIN FROM RENEGOTIATING  
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS  
GOVERNING ANTIDUMPING AND  
COUNTERVAILING MEASURES**

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House, and I offer a privileged resolution, that I noticed pursuant to rule IX, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

**RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO  
ABSTAIN FROM RENEGOTIATING INTER-  
NATIONAL AGREEMENTS GOVERNING ANTI-  
DUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING MEASURES**

Whereas under Art. I, Section 8 of the Constitution, the Congress has power and responsibility with regard to foreign commerce and the conduct of international trade negotiations;

Whereas the House of Representatives is deeply concerned that, in connection with the World Trade Organization ("WTO") Ministerial meeting to be held in Seattle, Washington, and the multilateral trade negotiations expected to follow, a few countries are seeking to circumvent the agreed list of negotiation topics and reopen debate over the WTO's antidumping and antisubsidy rules;

Whereas the Congress has not approved new negotiations on antidumping or antisubsidy rules and has clearly, but so far informally, signaled its opposition to such negotiations;

Whereas strong antidumping and antisubsidy rules are a cornerstone of the liberal trade policy of the United States and are essential to the health of the manufacturing and farm sectors in the United States;

Whereas it has long been and remains the policy of the United States to support its antidumping and antisubsidy laws and to defend those laws in international negotiations;

Whereas, under present circumstances, launching a negotiation that includes antidumping and antisubsidy issues would affect the rights of the House and the integrity of its proceedings;

Whereas the WTO antidumping and antisubsidy rules concluded in the Uruguay Round have scarcely been tested since they entered into effect and certainly have not proved defective;

Whereas opening these rules to renegotiation could only lead to weakening them, which would in turn lead to even greater abuse of the world's open markets, particularly that of the United States;

Whereas conversely, avoiding another divisive fight over these rules is the best way to promote progress on the other, far more important, issues facing WTO members; and

Whereas it is therefore essential that negotiations on these antidumping and antisubsidy matters not be reopened under the auspices of the WTO or otherwise: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives calls upon the President—

(1) not to participate in any international negotiation in which antidumping or antisubsidy rules are part of the negotiating agenda;

(2) to refrain from submitting for congressional approval agreements that require changes to the current antidumping and countervailing duty laws and enforcement policies of the United States; and

(3) to enforce the antidumping and countervailing duty laws vigorously in all pending and future cases.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HANSEN). The Chair will entertain brief argument as to whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. WISE).

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, this resolution I attempt to bring up calls on the President to abstain from renegotiating international agreements governing antidumping and countervailing measures.

The arguments I make are very simple. According to article I, section 8 of the Constitution, the Congress has the power and the responsibility relating to foreign commerce and the conduct of international trade negotiations. An important part of Congress' participation in the formulation of trade policy is the enactment of official negotiating objectives against which completed agreements can be measured when presented for ratification.

This Congress, in 1994, ratified an agenda for the Seattle World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference that is about to take place, and that agenda included only agricultural trade services, trade, and intellectual property protection. The agenda, specifically enacted into Federal law as Public Law 103-465, did not include antidumping or antisubsidy rules.

What Congress is concerned about here is that a few countries are seeking to circumvent the agreed list of negotiating topics and open debate over the WTO's antidumping and antisubsidy rules, most notably applied to steel in the past few months. The Congress has not approved new negotiations on these—

**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY**

Mr. KOLBE. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker. Is it in order for the gentleman to speak beyond the matter of whether or not this is a matter of personal privilege?

Mr. WISE. The Chair asked for arguments, and I am responding to the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The debate should be confined to whether or not this constitutes a question of privilege under rule IX.

Mr. WISE. Then I will happily deal directly with the gentleman's response. Incidentally, the 10,000 steelworkers who have been laid off in this country would like to have this matter brought up, but I will deal with the narrow approach that the gentleman requests.

Section 702 of House rule IX, entitled "General Principles," concludes that certain matters of business arising under the Constitution, mandatory in nature, have been held to have a privilege which supersedes the rules establishing the order of business. And, Mr. Speaker, before I was interrupted, I was making those points about those rules which cannot be superseded.

This is a question of the House's constitutional authority and is, therefore, privileged in nature. The WTO antidumping and antisubsidy rules concluded in the Uruguay Round have scarcely been tested since they have been entered into effect and have certainly not been proven effective. Opening these rules to negotiation only leads to weakening them, which in turn leads to even greater abuse of the world's markets.

There is precedent for bringing H. Res. 298 out of committee and to the House floor immediately. For instance, H. Con. Res. 190 was brought to the floor on October 26 under suspension of the rules because it concerned the upcoming Seattle Round, and this measure only had 13 cosponsors, while our comeasure has 228 cosponsors. The majority of this House should be heard.

And, as I point out, thousands of steelworkers from Weirton to Wheeling to Follensbee, who have been laid off during the course of these antidumping and antisubsidy rules not being effectively applied, are saying now to the President, please do not step back and please do not weaken them any further. Stand up for workers in this country. That is the grounds upon which I assert the privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Are there any other Members that want to be heard on this point?

If not, the Chair is prepared to rule on whether the resolution offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. WISE) is a question of the privileges of the House under rule IX.

The resolution offered by the gentleman from West Virginia calls upon the President to address a trade imbalance in the area of imports. Specifically, the resolution calls upon the President to refrain from participation in certain international negotiations, to refrain from submitting certain agreements to the Congress, and to vigorously enforce the trade laws.

As the Chair stated on October 10, 1998, and earlier today, a resolution expressing the legislative sentiment that the President should take specific action to achieve a desired public policy end does not present a question affecting the rights of the House, collectively, its safety, dignity, or the integrity of its proceeding within the meanings of rule IX. In the opinion of the Chair, the resolution offered by the gentleman from West Virginia is purely a legislative proposition properly initiated by introduction through the hopper under clause 7, rule XII, to be subsequently considered under the normal rules of the House.

Accordingly, the resolution offered by the gentleman from West Virginia does not constitute a question of the privileges of the House under rule IX, and may not be considered at this time.

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I appeal the ruling of the Chair, and ask to be heard on the ruling.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is, Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. KOLBE

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I move to lay the appeal on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) to lay on the table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 216, noes 201, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 567]

AYES—216

Aderholt	Ewing	LoBiondo
Archer	Fletcher	Lofgren
Armey	Foley	Lucas (OK)
Bachus	Fossella	Manzullo
Baker	Fowler	McCollum
Ballenger	Franks (NJ)	McCrery
Barr	Frelinghuysen	McHugh
Barrett (NE)	Gallegly	McInnis
Bartlett	Ganske	McIntosh
Barton	Gekas	McKeon
Bass	Gibbons	Metcalfe
Bateman	Gilchrest	Mica
Biggert	Gillmor	Miller (FL)
Bilbray	Gilman	Miller, Gary
Billirakis	Goodlatte	Moran (KS)
Bliley	Goodling	Moran (VA)
Blunt	Goss	Morella
Boehlert	Graham	Myrick
Boehner	Granger	Nethercutt
Bonilla	Green (WI)	Ney
Bono	Greenwood	Northup
Brady (TX)	Gutknecht	Nussle
Bryant	Hall (TX)	Ose
Burr	Hansen	Oxley
Burton	Hastings (WA)	Packard
Buyer	Hayes	Paul
Callahan	Hayworth	Pease
Calvert	Hefley	Peterson (PA)
Camp	Herger	Petri
Campbell	Hill (MT)	Pickering
Canady	Hilleary	Pitts
Cannon	Hobson	Pombo
Castle	Hoekstra	Portman
Chabot	Horn	Pryce (OH)
Chambliss	Hostettler	Quinn
Coble	Houghton	Radanovich
Coburn	Hulshof	Ramstad
Collins	Hunter	Regula
Combest	Hutchinson	Reynolds
Cook	Hyde	Riley
Cooksey	Isakson	Rogan
Cox	Jenkins	Rogers
Crane	Johnson (CT)	Rohrabacher
Cubin	Johnson, Sam	Ros-Lehtinen
Cunningham	Jones (NC)	Roukema
Davis (VA)	Kelly	Royce
Deal	King (NY)	Ryan (WI)
DeLay	Kingston	Ryun (KS)
DeMint	Knollenberg	Salmon
Diaz-Balart	Kolbe	Sanford
Dickey	Kuykendall	Saxton
Doolittle	LaHood	Schaffer
Dreier	Largent	Sensenbrenner
Duncan	Latham	Sessions
Dunn	LaTourette	Shadegg
Ehlers	Lazio	Shaw
Ehrlich	Leach	Sherwood
Emerson	Lewis (CA)	Shimkus
English	Lewis (KY)	Shuster
Everett	Linder	Simpson

Skeen  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Souder  
Spence  
Stearns  
Stump  
Sununu  
Sweeney  
Talent  
Tancred

Tauzin  
Taylor (NC)  
Terry  
Thomas  
Thornberry  
Thune  
Tiahrt  
Toomey  
Upton  
Vitter  
Walden  
Walsh

Wamp  
Watkins  
Watts (OK)  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Weller  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson  
Wolf  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)

NOES—201

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Allen  
Andrews  
Baird  
Baldacci  
Baldwin  
Barcia  
Barrett (WI)  
Becerra  
Bentsen  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Bishop  
Blagojevich  
Blumenauer  
Bonior  
Borski  
Boswell  
Boucher  
Boyd  
Brady (PA)  
Brown (FL)  
Brown (OH)  
Capps  
Capuano  
Cardin  
Carson  
Clay  
Clayton  
Clement  
Clyburn  
Condit  
Costello  
Coyne  
Cramer  
Crowley  
Cummings  
Danner  
Davis (FL)  
Davis (IL)  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delahunt  
DeLauro  
Deutsch  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Dixon  
Doggett  
Dooley  
Doyle  
Edwards  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Evans  
Farr  
Fattah  
Filner  
Forbes  
Ford  
Frank (MA)  
Frost  
Gejdenson  
Gephardt  
Gonzalez

Goode  
Gordon  
Green (TX)  
Gutierrez  
Hall (OH)  
Hastings (FL)  
Hill (IN)  
Hilliard  
Hinchee  
Hinojosa  
Hoeffel  
Holden  
Holt  
Hooley  
Hoyer  
Inslee  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jefferson  
John  
Johnson, E. B.  
Jones (OH)  
Kaptur  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind (WI)  
Klecza  
Klink  
Kucinich  
LaFalce  
Lampson  
Lantos  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lipinski  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Luther  
Maloney (NY)  
Markey  
Martinez  
Mascara  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McIntyre  
McKinney  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meeks (NY)  
Menendez  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller, George  
Minge  
Mink  
Moakley  
Mollohan  
Moore  
Murtha  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Owens  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Pastor  
Pelosi  
Peterson (MN)  
Phelps  
Pickett  
Pomeroy  
Price (NC)  
Rahall  
Rangel  
Reyes  
Rivers  
Rodriguez  
Roemer  
Rothman  
Roybal-Allard  
Rush  
Sabo  
Sanchez  
Sanders  
Sandlin  
Sawyer  
Schakowsky  
Scott  
Serrano  
Sherman  
Shows  
Sisisky  
Skelton  
Slaughter  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Spratt  
Stabenow  
Stenholm  
Strickland  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Taylor (MS)  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thurman  
Tierney  
Towns  
Traficant  
Turner  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Velazquez  
Vento  
Visclosky  
Waters  
Watt (NC)  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Wexler  
Weygand  
Wise  
Woolsey  
Wu  
Wynn

NOT VOTING—16

Bereuter  
Chenoweth-Hage  
Conyers  
Istook  
Kanjorski  
Kasich

Larson  
Maloney (CT)  
Meek (FL)  
Norwood  
Payne  
Porter  
Scarborough  
Shays  
Stark  
Stupak

□ 1432

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE— CALLING ON PRESIDENT TO AB- STAIN FROM RENEGOTIATING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS GOVERNING ANTIDUMPING LAWS AND COUNTERVAILING MEAS- URES

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer a privileged resolution that I noticed pursuant to rule IX and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO ABSTAIN FROM RENEGOTIATING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS GOVERNING ANTIDUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING MEASURES

Whereas under Art. I, Section 8 of the Constitution, the Congress has power and responsibility with regard to foreign commerce and the conduct of international trade negotiations;

Whereas the House of Representatives is deeply concerned that, in connection with the World Trade Organization, ("WTO") Ministerial meeting to be held in Seattle, Washington, and the multilateral trade negotiations expected to follow, a few countries are seeking to circumvent the agreed list of negotiation topics and reopen debate over the WTO's antidumping and antisubsidy rules;

Whereas the built-in agenda for future WTO negotiations, which was set out in the Uruguay Round package ratified by Congress in 1994, includes agriculture trade, services trade, and intellectual property protection but does not include antidumping or antisubsidy rules;

Whereas the Congress has not approved new negotiations or antidumping or antisubsidy rules and has clearly, but so far informally, signaled its opposition to such negotiations;

Whereas strong antidumping and antisubsidy rules are a cornerstone of the liberal trade policy of the United States and are essential to the health of the manufacturing and farm sectors in the United States;

Whereas it has long been and remains the policy of the United States to support its antidumping and antisubsidy laws and to defend those laws in international negotiations;

Whereas an important part of Congress' participation in the formulation of trade policy is the enactment of official negotiating objectives against which completed agreements can be measured when presented for ratification;

Whereas the current absence of official negotiating objectives on the statute books must not be allowed to undermine the Congress' constitutional role in charting the direction of United States trade policy.

Whereas the WTO antidumping and antisubsidy rules concluded in the Uruguay Round have scarcely been tested since they entered into effect and certainly have not proved defective;

Whereas opening these rules to renegotiation could only lead to weakening them, which would in turn lead to even greater abuse of the world's open markets, particularly that of the United States;

Whereas conversely, avoiding another divisive fight over these rules is the best way to